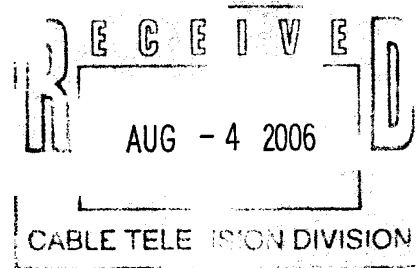


*Anna Furbish
20 Georganna Street
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184*



August 2, 2006

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Dear Commissioners:

I write today because I am extremely concerned about Verizon's attempt to bypass the local franchise agreement process. As a 30 year resident of Braintree and a mother of two children who went through the Braintree Public School system, I think that what Verizon is trying to do is shameful.

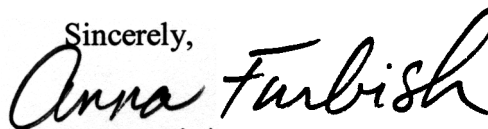
My current provider, Comcast, has been a true partner with this community for as many years as I can remember. When my children were going through the school system and participating in town sports or events, Comcast always maintained a presence. Whether it is donating money to the schools, hooking them up to internet for practically nothing or donating money to the youth sports programs and other community events, Comcast has always come through.

While I understand that most companies often contribute to the communities in which they serve, I also understand how important a role the local franchising process is for any town in this state. Our local Board of Selectmen has, for years, had the power to negotiate with Comcast for the services that they offer in our town. Considering the very bleak economic climate of the last few years and the fact that not one Proposition 2 ½ has passed, the ability of a community to generate additional revenue or services through the franchising process is very important.

Every single other cable provider in this state has had to go through the local franchising process. Verizon is no different. They talk about competition and the consumer, but if they are allowed to avoid having to deal directly with the community, they will actually be hurting the consumer who relies on the local franchising process because they will essentially deprive local boards of the opportunity to negotiate.

Please do not approve Verizon's application. I do not mind if Verizon wants to offer services in my town, but Verizon should have to go through the same process as everyone else. We, as a community, rely heavily on the ability to negotiate with cable providers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna Furbish". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial 'A'.

Anna Furbish

20 Georganna Street
Braintree, MA 02184